

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
**INFORMATION REPORT**

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| <b>COUNTRY</b>        | Czechoslovakia                        | <b>REPORT</b>          |               |
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This is UNEVALUATED  
 Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.  
 THE APPRAISAL OF CONTENT IS TENTATIVE.  
 (FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

1. The men born in 1934 were due to start their national military service on 1 November 1954. This group of men received notification from their District Military Command (Okresni vojenske velitelstvi - OVV) in October 1952 to call within 14 days at the nearest physician for a medical examination. The physician examined the conscript, paying special attention to his throat and the X-ray, and marked the findings on a form supplied by the OVV. About three weeks later the conscript received another note from the OVV telling him to attend a conscription inventory (odvodni soupis) at the OVV at a certain date and time and to bring with him:

Citizen's identification card (obcansky prukaz)  
 Last school report  
 Result of medical examination  
 CP or Czech Youth Organization membership card  
 Driver's license  
 Any other personal documents

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On the basis of these documents the OVV issued the conscript a conscription certificate (prukaz brance).

2. The conscription certificate was in the form of a two-page leaflet about 3 1/2 x 6 inches in size. On the outside of the first page is a printed inscription "Prukaz brance" and the Czechoslovak seal. The inside of the document is subdivided. On the top half are the name and personal data. The top half ends with the clause: "Registered by the OVV at..." (Vzat do evidence OVV...). The lower half begins with a statement: "The bearer is due for conscription in 1953" (Podleha odvodu v r. 1953), followed by: "Enlisted by draft board:" (Odveden Odvodni komisi:). Here, the name of the place and the date of the conscript's preinduction examination is added when this actually takes place. In spite of the sentence "Due for conscription in 1953" the 1934 age group had not yet been called for preinduction examinations as of July 1954. On the second page of the document the domicile and changes of address are noted. On the last outside page (sic) instructions are printed, and, finally, there is the signature of the conscript.

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(NOTE: Distribution indicated by "X"; Field distribution by "#")

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3. Approximately three months later the conscripts received another note from the OVV ordering them to appear before the District National Health Office (Okresni urad narodniho zdravi) in order to be inoculated against tuberculosis.
4. At about the same time (February 1953) the conscripts received another summons to appear before the OVV in order to get a SVAZARM membership card. The card contained the name, personal data, and record of attendance at premilitary training. Every conscript must keep this card until his induction into the army when he hands it over to the military authorities. The receipt of the card at the OVV had to be signed by the conscript on a separate sheet. The sheet contained an appeal for attending premilitary training; this training was supposed to be voluntary.
5. In August or September 1953 the conscripts in this group were again called up by the OVV to be tested on their efficiency acquired through premilitary training (Prezkouseni branne zdatnosti). The tests took place on the local sport grounds on Saturday afternoons or Sundays. A group of 40 always attended at one time. The testing committee consisted of three junior officers, two of whom were reserve officers, instructors of SVAZARM, while one was a regular army officer in uniform. There were four NCO's assisting also. The tests consisted of the following:

Checking of conscripts' SVAZARM membership cards;  
Close order drill in squads and platoons;  
Combat exercises in three-member patrols (three-kilometer run with obstacles, throwing of hand grenades, firing air guns).

After the [ ] test the officer in charge made a short speech to the whole group of conscripts and told them that the results achieved were very poor. This, according to the speaker, was a consequence of not attending regularly the SVAZARM premilitary training. He added that only 10 conscripts out of 40 had their cards marked for attendance and even these showed irregular attendance.

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6. In June 1954 the conscripts were called by the OVV for a second efficiency test. The result of this test is unknown [ ] but is believed to be much the same as of the first test.
7. Preinduction medical examinations of the conscripts of the 1934 class were to take place in August - September 1954. When the conscripts appeared before the draft board they were to have the place and the date of their examination inserted in their conscription certificates (prukaz brance). The conscripts were to receive their call-up papers two or three weeks before November 1954, which was to be the induction date. The call-up papers contain only the date and hour of the conscript's appearance at the appropriate OVV and a list of personal effects that must be brought along by him.
8. The conscripts gathered at the OVV on the induction day are taken by military escort to the Regional Military Command (Krajske vojenske velitelství - KVV). There they are arranged in groups according to their designated units. When the groups are completed, they are put in the charge of NCO's and transported by rail or by road to their destination. This is the first time that a recruit learns the unit he has been assigned to.

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